



**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States
7450 Boston Boulevard, Springfield, Virginia 22153**



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Largest Selection of Wild Horses and Burros at Cross Plains, Tennessee Adoption

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Eastern States will sponsor a Wild Horse Adoption this weekend, October 26 -27, 2002, at the Cross Plains, Tennessee adoption center. The adoption will be held from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. and will offer over 150 animals. This will be one of the largest selections of wild horses and burros available for adoption. The facility will also be open Friday October 25, 2002, from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M., for viewing of the animals.

These wild horses and burros are known for their hardiness, soundness and intelligence and have excelled in a variety of disciplines, from endurance and trail riding to reining and western pleasure. Nationally known horse trainer Sam Powell will be on hand to demonstrate gentling techniques at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday. This demonstration is free and open to the public.

Before being offered for adoption, each horse is vaccinated, blood tested and dewormed. When the adopters arrive at the facility they must complete an application and pay the \$125 adoption fee. In order to qualify, each adopter must be at least 18 years old and have an enclosed corral with a minimum area of 400 feet (20' by 20' or larger) and a box stall of at least 144 square feet (12' by 12' or larger). Adopters must provide a stock trailer for transportation of their animal from the adoption facility. Divided two-horse and drop ramp trailers are not permitted. One can adopt up to four animals, and after one year, may receive title for their animal.

For more than 30 years, the U.S. Department of the Interior, BLM, has helped find caring homes for over 175,000 wild horses and burros that roamed the western rangelands. Without the public's help, many of these animals would have died from lack of food and water. More information about adopting a wild horse or burro can be found on the National Wild Horse and Burro website at www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov or by calling 1 (800) 376-6009.

The Cross Plains Adoption/Holding Facility is located in Robertson County, about 35 miles north of Nashville, Tennessee. From Interstate 65, take Exit 112, and go west on Highway 25 for about four miles. You will pass through the small town of Cross Plains. Continue one more mile and turn right at Coutts-Carr Road. Follow the signs, taking the right-hand fork to the Adoption Center. The holding pens are on the left and the office is directly ahead. The number to the office is (615) 654-7500.

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